



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

REGION IV
Alabama, Florida, Georgia,
Kentucky, Mississippi,
North Carolina, Puerto
Rico, South Carolina,
Tennessee, Virgin Islands

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JAN 13 2016

Ms. Renee Gledhill-Earley
State Historic Preservation Office
4617 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4617

RE: Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project, Durham and Orange Counties, North Carolina, ER 12-0378, Submission of Section 106 Assessment of Effects to Historic Properties and Memorandum of Agreement

Dear Dr. Ms. Gledhill-Earley:

This letter formally transmits the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Determination of Effects to Historic Properties and a Memorandum of Agreement for protection of Historic and Archaeological resources for the subject project. No project changes were made since GoTriangle's submission of the Preliminary Assessment of Effects to you on August 11, 2015.

Based on the previously submitted Architectural History Survey, the FTA has identified historic properties within the APE that are listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Additionally, pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations, *36 CFR Part 800*, FTA has determined that this undertaking has **No Adverse Effect** to historic properties.

Per your letter of September 10, 2015, FTA is providing the following commitments to reduce effects to historic and archaeological properties in the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision (FEIS/ROD):

- Triangle Transit will consult with property owners, historic district representatives, and the SHPO to create a landscape visual buffer for the following historic resources due to their non-urban settings:
 - Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District (HD)
 - The Highland Woods HD
 - The Walter Curtis Hudson Farm
 - The Ruth-Sizemore Store
- Prior to ground-disturbing activities, Triangle Transit will conduct Phase I archaeological surveys for the following locations:
 - North of Mason Farm Road between UNC and Fordham Boulevard
 - Between George King Road and Interstate-40 (I-40)
 - Farrington Road ROMF Site
 - West of I-40 at the US 15/501 Interchange (Exit 270) (Gateway Station)
 - Between US 15/501 and the NC 751-Erwin Road intersection

Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project Submission of Section 106 Assessment of Effects to Historic Properties and Memorandum of Agreement

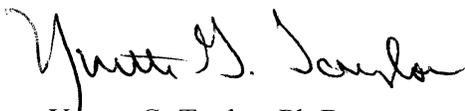
- If required depending upon the exact nature and extent of ground-disturbing activities, Triangle Transit will conduct additional Phase II archaeological testing at the following locations:
 - Archaeological site 31DH655
 - PS-1
 - PS-3

The FEIS/ROD commitments also state that FTA, Triangle Transit, and SHPO entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to establish the procedures by which FTA, Triangle Transit, and SHPO will work together to ensure the effective protection of historic and/or archaeological resources during the implementation and construction of the proposed D-O LRT Project. FTA, Triangle Transit, and SHPO agree that the D-O LRT Project shall be implemented in accordance with the stipulations outlined in the MOA.

FTA seeks your concurrence on the effects determination, which will serve as your concurrence on FTA's finding that the project would have a *de minimis* use of historic properties and/or a temporary occupancy exception for the purposes of Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act.

Please contact Ms. Julia Carrie Walker at (404) 865-5645 or at julia.walker@dot.gov should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Yvette G. Taylor, Ph.D.
Regional Administrator